

The Sydney Morning Herald.

SYDNEY, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2, 1904.

10 PAGES.

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See Notice of Births, Marriages, Deaths, &c., see page 4.]

SUMMARY.

It is reported at Tokio that the Japanese have captured and that they retain the southern portion of 200-Metre Hill.

A short battle raged all Wednesday.

A later telegram says that the Japanese have captured and hold the fort crowning 200-Metre Hill.

Bags of Russian corps were found on the hills of the hill after it had been seized.

It is stated on good authority that the Japanese have lost 25,000 men killed outright.

After the sieges and that they retain the south portion of 200-Metre Hill.

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It is asserted that General Togo has been reinforced by 24,000 men.

Another Russian force of 38,000 men, with 60 guns, will reach the front by the end of the month.

A Japanese squadron has gone to the Dutch Indies to watch for the Dutch fleet.

The Czar has ordered Admiral Shirlet to send a third squadron to the Far East.

At the opening of the Japanese Diet he said, in his speech, that his troops had been victorious in every engagement with the Russians.

He also stated that they had displayed great brilliancy and that he was confident of ultimate success.

The Japanese in Japan are aroused against the English.

The English in Japan are allowing the British fleet the free movement.

Admiral Davis will be the United States representative on the Dogger Bank Commission.

The Emperor Francis Joseph has selected the King of Spain to be the fifth member of the commission and the referee.

India has approved of the proposed conference, but suggests that the meeting should be postponed until after the war is over.

The Rev. Isaac Selby, of Australia, shot at but missed Judge Heberden seated on the beach at San Francisco.

In the opening of the Italian Parliament a declaration was made in favour of England.

The Legislative Council yesterday rejected the motion for the second reading of the Government Savings Bank Bill by 35 votes to 9.

The Harbour Rates Bill was first from the Legislative Council yesterday.

House passed the Smoke Nuisance Bill, in Committee, and the Centennial Bill through committee.

The Assembly received the Stamp Duties Bill from the Legislative Council with much opposition, and the motion of the Speaker was laid aside.

Mr. Carruthers said he would introduce another bill to affirm the right of the House to control the public service in the colony.

A Bill was introduced to appoint local government commissioners.

The Senate, in effect, refused to receive a Bill from the Archbishop of Sydney because it was signed off by the Queen.

A motion was adopted in the Senate yesterday to refer the Bill to the Standing Committee on Finance.

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GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS.

RAIL AND RIVER EXCURSIONS.

FOR THE HAWKSLEY RIVER.

TO-DAY AND TO-MORROW.
Train will leave Sydney at 9.30 a.m. and Milson's Point at 8.45 a.m.
The River Trip will occupy five hours.

RETURN FARES from Sydney and Suburban Stations (including steamer Trip): First-class, 1s; second, 8d; third, 6d.

REFRESHMENTS can be obtained on board the steamer at reasonable rates.

FOR PARNSWELL.

(George's River), via COMG.

TO-MORROW, SATURDAY.

TRAIN will leave Sydney at 2 P.M., calling at all stations. Twenty-four miles by rail and 16 by road.

RETURN FARES from Sydney (including steamer trip): First-class, 2s 4d; Second-class, 1s 6d.

REFRESHMENTS can be obtained on the Ground.

By order of the Committee.

H. MACHINIST, Secretary.

BICYCLES AND MOTOR CARS.

BICYCLES ENGINES VICTORIOUS.
Mr. W. J. C. JELLIOTT accomplished all his recent records in the last Grand National, and has now sold his "Victorius" to Mr. G. L. Goodman. The times were: 1 mile in 1 min 13.3 sec.; 5 miles under 1 min 1 sec.; 10 miles under 2 mins 1 sec.; 15 miles under 3 mins 1 sec.; 20 miles under 4 mins 1 sec.; 25 miles under 5 mins 1 sec.; 30 miles under 6 mins 1 sec.; 35 miles under 7 mins 1 sec.; 40 miles under 8 mins 1 sec.; 45 miles under 9 mins 1 sec.; 50 miles under 10 mins 1 sec.; 55 miles under 11 mins 1 sec.; 60 miles under 12 mins 1 sec.; 65 miles under 13 mins 1 sec.; 70 miles under 14 mins 1 sec.; 75 miles under 15 mins 1 sec.; 80 miles under 16 mins 1 sec.; 85 miles under 17 mins 1 sec.; 90 miles under 18 mins 1 sec.; 95 miles under 19 mins 1 sec.; 100 miles under 20 mins 1 sec.

Mr. J. C. JELLIOTT presents his chief discovery, a Play in 3 Acts, presented by Robert BATEMAN.

THEODORA.

A SPLENDID AND MAGNIFICENT SPECTACLE.

MISS TITTELL BRUNE, Mrs. THEODORA.

A BRILLIANT SUCCESS.

ON THE LAND.

FARM AND STATION.

OVERSEAS CARRIAGE OF PRODUCE.

DRASTIC REFORMS REQUIRED.

A principle of the very highest importance is Australian legislation to increase by the introduction of the Federal Senate to increase by the responsibilities of shipowners in connection with the condition of goods carried. The sudden introduction of such a summary measure as the Sea Carriage of Goods Bill is a crude and badly considered proceeding, but it would be under the existing interests to consider the movement. Since Australia first began to export perishable produce, the various enterprises have from time to time received serious checks in consequence of the condition in which ships have delivered consignments. Staggering difficulties have arisen from dairy products trades, because shipments were made in vessels on which temperatures were not observed. It does not require many such shocks to ruin the prospects of a valuable export line, and throw it out of its place on the export market for several years. Plainly, the close observation of even small details is essential to ensure the delivery of produce in proper condition is of immense consequence to the man on the land, and, indirectly, to every other person in the Commonwealth. Many years must elapse before local consumption will begin to overtake production from the soil. The growth in industries other than those of agriculture is very slow, so we must look forward to a continuation of the conditions under which the population is roughly divided into primary producers, those engaged in selling, distributing, and exporting the produce, those who live by importation, the greater number who are necessary to each class. It is, therefore, plain that the development of the territory and the increase of population depend to a very large extent upon foreign markets being found for more than produce than are at present exported.

In California, where the natural resources are nearly those of Australia, the fruit industry is a leading one, supporting a large and prosperous population on the land. In Australia fruit-growing is a poor, languishing industry, and the greater number of fruit growers are in fact, because of the cost of labour, unable to sell their produce. We have in the same areas of fruit lands in suitable climate, but one of the poorest recommendations for a property is that it will grow fruit. This wide difference between the industry in California and in Australia is almost solely due to the successful marketing of California fruits in other States and countries. Australia's labourers are not qualified in marketing to such an extent as the Americans. The court held that "no holding" in section 3, subsection "P," did not have the extended meaning of the word "holding" in the Land Purchase Act, but was restricted to an original contract of purchase of land which was open to selection prior to the passing of the Amendment Act.

LAND SELECTION.

The following statement shows the area of land selected under the Crown Lands Act Amendment Act of 1901 up to November 30, 1904:

Settlement selections 489,259 acres.

Settlement leases 877,585 acres.

Conditional purchases 457,484 acres.

Conditional leases 1,185,054 acres.

The total area made available since the commencement of the Crown Lands Act Amendment for 1903, for the Lands Office days within the abovementioned period, 3,886,798 acres, has been taken up. Part of this area taken up is land which was open to selection prior to the passing of the Amendment Act.

CHAMBER OF AGRICULTURE.

LOSS OF PRODUCE ON THE RAILWAYS.

A meeting of the several sectional committees of the New South Wales Chamber of Agriculture was held at the residence of Mr. G. H. Bryan, on Tuesday evening. Mr. Bryan moved—"That it is desirable, in the interests of the trading community, that the State Government should accept reasonable responsibility as carriers, and not, as at present, exempt themselves from all liability under the ordinance." The motion was carried.

Mr. BRYAN moved that the Commission should take responsibility for damage to goods in transit.

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[For Shipping, Meteorological, and
Mail Notices See Page 6.]

MARRIAGES.

DAVIES-WILSON.—November 23, 1879, at the Church of England, Wellington, by Canon Barry Brown; Arthur, second son of J. Davies, Yarndale, Scone, to Anna, second daughter of L. H. Wilson, Murrayton, N.W.A.

SILVER WEDDINGS.

HORNBY—GEORGE—November 29, 1879, at the residence of his son, Dr. George Hornby, M.R.C.S., F.R.C.P., of George Street, Victoria, by Rev. Mr. George D. St. John, son of the late Dr. St. John, of Liverpool, M.R.C.S., F.R.C.P., of Chester, Cheshire, England, nephew of the late Dr. Hornby, Esq., M.R.C.S., F.R.C.P., of London, Eng., Esq., and Edward T. Esq., M.R.C.S., F.R.C.P., of York, Eng., and Edward T. Esq., of Crow Park, New South Wales, to Margaret, widow of the late General George Macmillan, Esq., Drumlin, County Down, Ireland.

DEATHS.

BURKE.—December 2, 1904, at his late residence, 125 Warrnambool-street, Darlington, Gregory Thomas Bayne, late May aged 65 years.

PAYTON.—November 29, 1904, at her residence, 263 Victoria-street, Darlington, by the late Reverend Dr. Steel, John, son of the late Dr. Steel, of Liverpool, M.R.C.S., F.R.C.P., of Chester, Cheshire, England, nephew of the late Dr. Hornby, Esq., M.R.C.S., F.R.C.P., of London, Eng., Esq., and Edward T. Esq., M.R.C.S., F.R.C.P., of York, Eng., and Edward T. Esq., of Crow Park, New South Wales, to Margaret, widow of the late General George Macmillan, Esq., Drumlin, County Down, Ireland.

IN MEMORIAM.

BARKER.—A tribute of love to the memory of my dear husband and our first father, George Robert Barker, who was accidentally killed near the Works on December 2, 1893, aged 60 years, after 22 years' service. Deeply regretted has his affectionate wife and children.

BARKER.—In loving memory of our darling Grace, who died December 2, 1904, inserted by her loving parents, brothers, and sisters.

BURMAN.—In loving memory of our son, James R. Burman, who passed away at his father's residence, Telopea, New South Wales, on December 2, 1904.

LOVELY.—Our hearts to-day.

IN PARLIAMENT.

THE WAR.

SIEGE OF PORT ARTHUR.

203-METRE HILL.

WHOLLY CAPTURED AT LAST.

LONG SUSTAINED CHARGES.

JAPANESE SAIL FOR THE INDIES.

WATCHING FOR THE BALTIC FLEET.

LONDON, Dec. 1 (5.35 a.m.).

The preliminary business in the Legislative Council yesterday was disposed of in a few minutes, and the debate was then resumed on the bill for the second reading of the Government Savings Bank Bill. Mr. Hawken again gave the report of the Government, which approved the proposal of the Government. Mr. H. O. Arnold-Foster submitted the measure, and especially that portion of it relating to settlers. Sir John See, who was plainly enough indicated his hostility to the amalgamation of the two banks, being the Vice-President of the Executive Council, spoke for the Government, and stated that the bill was in no sense a branch-street Savings Bank was in no sense a Government institution, the proposition in the bill was over the management could not be justified. No other hon. member having exhibited any desire to submit his views on the subject, the Vice-President of the Executive Council replied, and the second reading was negatively voted.

The Committee on Bills and Committees, Mr. Hawken, had read the second time, and passed through committee, and the Smoke Tax Abatement Bill was taken to the third reading stage. Just before the House adjourned, hon. members sustained a mild attack of the adverse of another, Mr. George Ratey Hill, which was received in the Assembly, and after the third reading adjourned until Tuesday. The House, at 8.30 p.m., had read the second time, and passed through committee, and the Smoke Tax Abatement Bill was taken to the third reading stage. Just before the House adjourned, hon. members sustained a mild attack of the adverse of another, Mr. George Ratey Hill, which was received in the Assembly, and after the third reading adjourned until Tuesday.

It is reported at Tokio that the Japanese have carried the south-eastern portion of the island of Corea, and that the Japanese had occupied the double fort, Tsching-ling, and that Mukden, once taken, will be the Japanese armies will not reach Harbin, but that Mukden, once taken, they will "sit tight" on the conquered territory, and leave aggression to the enemy. To sacrifice Tsching-ling will be to grant certain advantages to Kuropatkin, but the Japanese are now realising the magnitude of the people of Great Britain, Canada, and Australia, enabling the Empire to meet unfair attacks on our trade and to strengthen the solidarity of the motherland and the colonies.

But the capture of Port Arthur, we hear remarked, will justify the double objective.

Not that either side of the mark? In May last there was sharp criticism in England and on the Continent of the Japanese policy, and the Japanese had decided upon the double fort, defeating Kuropatkin and seizing the fortress. But even should the Baltic squadron reach Eastern seas before Port Arthur falls, the Japanese policy will not stand condemned.

The question of justification lies altogether apart from that contingency. It will never be denied that the attempt should be made to take the hill.

Desperate attempts were made to tunnel towards 203 Metre Hill, and repeated bayonet charges were made by the Japanese. The casualties were heavy.

It is stated on good authority, Mr. Burleigh adds that the casualties on the side of the besiegers since the siege began number over 25,000 men killed outright.

An official message published at Tokio states that the Japanese near the summit of 203 Metre Hill advanced at 10 o'clock in the morning of Wednesday, and struggled until they obtained possession of the central fortification.

When the Russian forces had occupied the hill, a fierce battle raged all day.

Roger's correspondent at Tokio telegraphing to-day (Thursday) states that the Japanese have captured and held the fort crowning 203 Metre Hill.

KUROPATKIN'S REINFORCEMENTS.

OVER 70,000 MEN.

The Odessa correspondent of the "Standard" authoritatively states that since the battle of Shaho General Kuropatkin's reinforcements number 34,000 men, with 72 guns. A further 38,000 men, with 88 guns, will reach the front by the end of December.

THE BALTIC FLEET.

JAPANESE ON THE WATCH.

A Japanese squadron, commanded by Vice-Admiral Iru, has gone to the Dutch East Indies to watch for the Baltic squadron.

ANOTHER RUSSIAN SQUADRON.

The Czar has ordered Admiral Biret to form a third squadron to sail for the Far East in April.

BENEVOLENT NEUTRALITY.

COMPLAINTS AGAINST FRANCE.

THE TOKIO CORRESPONDENT OF THE "TIMES."

says there is no irritation in Japan on the question of Great Britain supplying coal to the Russian navy. The Japanese fully comprehend the nature of the English law on the matter. The indignation is confined to expressions against France for so interpreting her laws as to allow the Baltic fleet the free use of her ports. Such conduct is described as being irreconcilable with strict neutrality.

THE JAPANESE DIET.

OPENED BY THE MIKADO.

STEADY PROGRESS OF THE WAR.

The Japanese Diet was opened yesterday. The Mikado, in his speech, said that the relations of Japan with neutrals were increasingly cordial.

Japanese troops had been victorious in every engagement with the Russians, and had displayed increased brilliancy and valour, which had secured steady progress. He was confident that his subjects' loyalty and devotion would ensure the ultimate success of their arms.

CABLE TO THE CONSUL.

STORMING OF 203 METRE HILL.

JAPANESE IN FINAL POSSESSION.

Mr. K. Iwasaki, Acting Consul-General for Japan in Australia, received the following cable from Port Arthur early this morning:

"We commenced at dawn on November 20 bombarding 203 Metre Hill, which commands the harbour. Our repeated assaults met with the enemy's stout resistance, but at 8 p.m. we finally succeeded in occupying the whole hill."

"Heaps of the enemy's corpses were found on the east side of the hill."

COMMENTS ON THE SITUATION.

TARIFF COMMISSION.

MEETING OF THE FEDERAL CABINET.

MELBOURNE, Thursday.

Another meeting of the Federal Cabinet was held today, and the bill of the proposed tariff, it is proposed, to accept, was submitted to the Prime Minister. It is understood that he will accept it, and that it will be introduced into the House of Representatives.

The bill was introduced into the House of Representatives on the 1st instant, and

the bill was taken through committee, and the Premier had introduced a bill to appoint commissioners to divide certain parts of the State into shires, preparatory to the introduction of local government.

The Council of Ministers in the Navvigation Committee Bill were agreed to, and the Maritime Friendly Societies Bill was introduced on the second time. Sponsored with the night's news, the Premier summoned all other Government bureaux, and gave private members of the Council the news. The bill was agreed to, and the bill was introduced into the House of Representatives.

A demonstration was made by members who are alienated against the bill to west Park and other city lung spaces in the Friday Council. Their point was that the newly-elected council should be given an opportunity to say whether they were willing to take over the powers without subsidy. The Government had done away with subsidies, and before the House could draw breath the Premier had introduced a bill to appoint commissioners to divide certain parts of the State into shires, preparatory to the introduction of local government.

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MONETARY AND COMMERCIAL.

Thursday Evening.

It cannot be said there was any improvement in business on the Stock Exchange to-day. The number of transactions, indeed, was fewer than usual, and the market fairly dead. Union Bank were rather dead, and the buying at 40s; Australian and Tasmanian Banks 3s deposit quoted at 12s 6d, a rise of 4s. Fresh Food and Ice quoted at 1d, the previous price.

The following news were reported on Wednesday:

Wheat—Federation Australian Gaslight, 17s; Colonial Sugar, 21s; A.J.S. Bank's "Deposits," 8s 4d; Port Jackson Steam, 3s 6d; Noon's, 7s 2d; N.M. Afternoon's Fresh Food and Ice, 1s 6d; Treasury Bills, due February 1, 1906, 5s.

Closing quotations were:

